

Home Reading.

A Sample of Sorghum.

The thumpety thump of an overgrown fat man was heard at the editor's door. And the overworked, petulant journalist blazed, "I will write you a sample of sorghum. And a farmer approached, in a gingerly style. The man who instructed the masses. And placed in his hands, with a satisfied smile, A vital of sorghum molasses.

"I reckon you newspaper fellers," he said, "Hav never been fondered on such. And you think yourselves lucky to even get bread."

And deny yourself things that is rich. Well, it hurt me to think of you suffering here. For a change in your regular diet. And I thought, if you'd send me your paper a year I'd give ye that sorghum to try it.

"And, of course," he continued, "you'll give me a puff."

In the paper that comes out to-day—A column, I reckon, will be 'bout enough. And I reckon you know what to say. I made them molasses myself, you must know. And my name is Ezekiel Squares."

Here he leaned from the window and twice shouted "Whoa!"

To a thin yokel, heart-broken steers.

Then the editor, setting the sorghum aside, Arose from his chair with a sigh.

And he said, "It is true, and it can't be denied, That ye journalists cannot live high; And your greatness and enlightenment by naught Save your modesty, meits me to tears."

(Here the man took a bite from some cheese he had brought and enlighten the masses, While I vary my regular diet of bread With this vital of sorghum molasses.)

And the writer continued, "The Times for a year Would be a feeble exchange, sir, I fear. For this sorghum, deliciously blended, So, accept the office, my friend, if you please; 'Tis the work of a number of years— (Here the husbandman nibbled again at his cheese And shouted once more to his steers.)

"The office is yours," said the scribe, "and the press; They are all I can offer you now: Your favor booms o'er the paper, I confess, Like a mountain range o'er a cow; And I give up my chair, you shall take it instead, And instruct and enlighten the masses, While I vary my regular diet of bread With this vital of sorghum molasses."

A Page of History.

In the fall of 1871 the Eucleian Society of this village (which for some time had discussed the subject of a public library and hall, and taken steps in the matter in connection with their public reading-room) instructed its Reading-room and Library Committee to take preliminary steps toward securing the erection of a building and the establishment of a library. During the deliberations and investigations of this committee they found that several well-known citizens of our village were taking measures to accomplish substantially the same objects. These parties met together, and after consideration decided to unite their efforts and form the Bloomfield Library Association, having for its objects the erection of a public hall and the establishment of a public library. A charter was drawn, naming as incorporators Messrs. David J. Joseph, A. Davis, Moses W. Dodd, Augustus T. Morris, Jacob F. Randolph, Robert Peele, Joseph P. Hagne, Rev. C. E. Knox, W. G. Rayner, Jason Crane, Dr. E. McFarlan, C. W. Powers, and D. G. Garabrant. This charter became a law April 4, 1872. Soon after the Association organized under this charter, electing David Oakes, Pres., Dr. E. McFarlan, Vice-Pres., D. G. Garabrant, Secy., and Jason Crane, Treas.

The subject of the location of the proposed building was thoroughly discussed through several meetings, different sites being suggested, but the southwestern corner of Broad and Liberty Streets was finally determined upon as combining better than any other, proximity to "the centre" and the railroad lines without being too near; ease of access from different sections of town; plenty of street room, etc. Plans were obtained from several architects, carefully considered, and one submitted by Mr. H. Hudson Holly, of New York, decided upon. Under this plan the cost of lot and building would have been about \$47,000, and it was therefore decided to delay beginning to build until the subscriptions to the capital stock should reach \$40,000. The panic of 1873 coming on soon after, subscriptions came in very slowly and things remained in statu quo until the annual meeting held June, 1874. At that meeting several changes were made in the board of directors, and a resolution was adopted to the effect that the directors should proceed at once to build. In view of this resolution, immediate attention was given to the question of building. The Holly plan adopted by the previous board of directors was considered too expensive for the means of the association, and other plans were therefore obtained. Those finally adopted were by Mr. Jos. M. Dodd, of Orange. The building was intended to cover the whole of the lot, but was designed so as to be erected in two sections if desired. The rear section is the present library hall, and the front section to face on Broad Street, was expected to be three stories in height and be filled with stores, offices, etc. Ground was broken Sept. 24, 1874, and on Oct. 26 the corner stone was laid. Work progressed slowly during the winter, and when the following spring gave opportunity to rapidly complete the building the directors found themselves hampered by lack of funds, a considerable amount subscribed not having been paid in, owing to the financial embarrassment of several of the largest subscribers. Under these circumstances a general meeting of stockholders was called in March, 1875, to try to awaken more interest and secure additional subscriptions to the capital stock. The meeting was very thinly attended and nothing was accomplished.

After the annual meeting in June following the board decided to make another effort to secure additional subscriptions to the stock. A few liberal amounts were obtained on condition of the whole sum needed being secured, and many expressed a purpose to subscribe at some future time, but the depression of business was such that they could not do so then.

The board felt very averse to burdening the Association with a heavy mortgage, and hoping for better times, and that the members of the Association and citizens of Bloomfield generally would be aroused by the stoppage of work, it was decided to suspend work on the building, and so little or nothing was done during the summer and fall of 1875.

Late in that year, however, it was concluded to finish the hall immediately if arrangements could be made for a loan. The considerations leading to this decision were: 1st. Balances were due contractors for work done, for payment of which they were pressing. Money for this purpose could not be raised by subscriptions, and to obtain a loan on the building it must first be finished. 2d. Some work must be done about the building to secure it against the storms of the approaching winter. 3d. All the money so far expended could bring no return un-

til the building was completed. 4th. The town greatly needed the accommodations which the building, so near completion, would provide.

It was found the needed loan could be obtained, but only upon completion of the building, and satisfactory individual bonds being given with the mortgage.

To accomplish this all the directors agreed to assume the personal liability, and go on the bond. The work was then pushed forward as rapidly as possible, and on March 1, 1876, the building was opened to the public.

Soon after, the loan of \$12,000, which had been arranged for with the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Co., was received, and used in paying off claims against the Association. There had, however, been a still further shrinkage in the subscriptions, owing to failures, and the board found themselves still short of funds to settle up all claims. During the time the building was being completed, and before the loan could be obtained, Dr. J. A. Davis and Mr. A. T. Morris, especially the latter, had aided the Association by loans, by personally taking up its notes, etc., so that now \$4,500 was due Mr. Morris, and a second mortgage was given him in Feb., 1877, for that amount.

In April, 1877, the directors called a meeting of stockholders to lay before them a statement of the condition of the Association. It was stated to that meeting that there were unsettled claims of about \$3,000 for work, etc.; insurance premium past due, \$150; interest soon due, \$430.

The attendance was small. Money to pay the insurance was raised on the spot, and it was voted to appoint a committee to make effort to secure the amount needed to pay the claims.

That effort was a failure. Still another attempt was made about three months after, but with no better success, and the directors gave up in despair.

In the summer following, the building was sold under a builder's lien claim, and soon after was sold again for taxes, and temporarily passed into possession of the purchasers under the tax sale. Subsequently, this party having been paid back his purchase money from proceeds of rentals of the hall, he relinquished possession to the board.

Early in 1878 foreclosure proceedings were begun by the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Co. A circular was therefore prepared and sent to each stockholder, calling attention to the fact that their property was likely to be taken out of their hands by the foreclosure, and inviting them to attend a meeting on April 5, 1878, to consider what course should be pursued; whether to try to save the building for the Association as already existing, to unite in forming a new Association, or what should be done.

The meeting was held, but very few were present, and no plan was adopted. The gentlemen who had gone on the bond individually found themselves liable for a probable deficiency, and were compelled to consider how to protect themselves. They therefore arranged to have the building bought in for their account; and the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Co. agreed to take a new bond and mortgage, and continue the loan, but with individual bonds as before.

Before formally organizing the new Association an invitation was extended to the stockholders to unite with the bondsmen in the new organization, sign the bond, and participate in the ownership of the hall.

Only two stockholders, besides those already on the bond, accepted the invitation. Eleven of the original bondsmen, and the two gentlemen who had accepted, then formed the Bloomfield Library Hall Association, paid an assessment of \$200 each for foreclosure expenses, etc., signed the new bond, the old one was returned, and the hall passed into their possession.

Those who thus became owners would have been glad to be relieved from the necessity, but they were fast. From that time to the present it has been a load; frequent assessments have been made to meet deficiencies, until they foot up over \$350 paid by each member, besides the \$200 assessment at the outset. These gentlemen are no longer able to carry this burden, and new means must now be devised if this property is to be saved for public use.

Undoubtedly the building could be made to pay, with a little lighter load of interest, and some improvements inside, rendering it more attractive and available.

It represents a cash expenditure of \$31,166.13 in its original cost, besides outlays since; but for want of a little more interest in it, a building which is now a great public convenience, and whose value to our town could be greatly increased, is in danger of being lost.

The Gelatine Pad

This device, often used for reproducing copies of letters, and for which a United States patent was granted, now appears to be only a revival of the old French method of transferring letters and designs to the surfaces of crockery in the ornamentation of the same. The *Glasgow Reporter* says: "An old French method of printing and transferring was to cast a sheet of glue a quarter of an inch thick, diluted, while warm, to such consistency that when cool it was perfectly flexible and pliable as leather. The impression was first taken from the copper plate upon this sheet of glue, and then transferred to the article requiring decorating. The glue could be applied to the ware two or three times before it became necessary to take a fresh impression from the plate. Black printing in the Staffordshire potteries was at one time done by a similar process; the gelatine bats being cast on dish bottoms, and then cut to the size required for the patterns. But this printing from bats has now fallen into disuse."

Some Mind Left.

Mose Schaumburg had loaned Samuel Bingham \$700. As Mose had not seen Sam on the streets of Austin for several days, it occurred to him to call at Sam's house, and find out how he was coming out. He did not see Sam, but Mrs. Bingham was at home. She looked very sad, and had black rings around her eyes.

"I am in great distress, Mr. Schaumburg."

"Vat vash de matter?"

"Mr. Bingham has lost his mind, and has been taken out into the country."

"Did he leave dot money mit you to pay dot note you comes due next week?"

"Oh, no, Mr. Schaumburg, he is not crazy enough to do that. He has lost his reasoning faculties entirely."—*Texas Siftings*.

SOME people are like a well-used rocking chair; they are always on the go, but never get ahead.

Boston Catastrophe.

BOB—Master Bob's letter is so graphic that we give it verbatim:

dear Mr. Editor: My fokes only lately come to Wellesley hills and here I am in Trouble all ready. Just like this—some fellows named Cabot and hildreth and Whiting and that Vorse boy was playing Bawl when I come along and Cabot asked me if I wanted to pass. I sed yes and started to go apast when he Past the bawl to me Hot, doctor Hazleton says the subinary stratum of brachial arteries has jumped the Track and I must lay Up for repairs just as Bull frogs is getting Ripe for stoning. I just don't believe I got all that from one hit with a bawl some of my four Fathers must have descended it to me as a heritage and if I had a Known it before I was a baby I woodn't have come. A Boy that wants any kind of Fun in this world, can't be too careful what he inherits from His Parents—but what I want to Know is how shall I Pay off Cabot for putting it in so Hot. Shall I Lay for Him? yours Truly

BOB BLANK.

Ans.—Now, Bob, if Cabot had put his "whole left" into that ball, he would have made a first class perforated pattern of you, so don't attempt to "warm him," and you are too young a chicken to "lay" for anybody yet a while. Just shake hands with the boys and start afresh.—*Wellesley Courant*.

An anecdote of Ouida, the novelist, in which she was worsted in repartee by the wife of an American diplomatist, is going about. This lady, being in Florence, expressed her purpose of calling on Miss De la Rame. Her friends attempted to dissuade her, saying that Ouida had a violent prejudice against Americans. Undeterred, the female diplomatist called at the novelist's house, and was met by Ouida, who said: "I must tell you that I exceedingly dislike Americans." "I am very much surprised to hear that," was the reply, "for they are the only people who read your nasty books!"

If there be any violation possible in harmony of colors, it has certainly been discovered in so-called adornment of buildings hereabouts. When a bright blue, dull red, flaming crimson, muddy laid on the outside of some of our houses, it would seem as if ingenuity could go no further in frightful combinations. If the people who live inside such a house can rest well of nights, it is because they are insensible to a nightmare of color. Many kinds of paint do not necessarily imply good taste in house decoration.—*Asbury Park Journal*.

THE Maine Central R. R. employs two deaf and dumb brakemen—Thomas Starr and Joseph Roucaux. That's the proper thing to do. Most brakemen are deaf enough, but they aren't dumb at all. They open the doors and yell into the ear a young cyclone of a word mixed up with a little thunder and lightning of their own. That's their entire duty—except to stroke the fire, which they always perform by putting half a ton of coal in a two gallon stove. Fine invention this, of having them deaf and dumb in the regular way.—*Our own (Patented) Joke*.

THE following notice is by a Virginia blacksmith: "Notice—De copartnership, heretofore existing betwixt me and Mose Skinner, is hereby resolved. Dem as what owes de firm will settle wid me, and dem what de firm owes will settle wid Mose."

THE smallest country newspaper is worth more to its subscribers in one month than its price for a year, and does more for its neighborhood for nothing than many a high official does for his munificent salary.—*Ex*.

Those whose courses are different cannot lay plans for another.

Ice Cream Festival

OF THE
Young People's Social, Literary, and Musical Association,
CONNECTED WITH THE

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH,
MONDAY EVENING, JULY 2d,
In the Lecture Room of the First Baptist Church.
To be preceded by a Literary and Musical Entertainment.

Admission Free.

SPECIAL EXCURSION

TO
Greenwood Lake

EVERY DAY DURING THE SEASON.
Fare for the Round Trip, \$1.20.
Children Half Rate.

TRAIN leaves N. Y. & G. L. Station at 9.31 A.M. daily, except Sunday, and 9.38 A.M. on Sundays. TICKETS and full information can be obtained at the depot.

SUNDAY-SCHOOLS, LODGES, ETC., desiring to make special arrangements please address
J. H. VAN RIPE, Excursion Agent,
184 Market St., Newark, N. J.

FIFTH

Annual Excursion

OF THE
YOUNG MEN'S

Methodist Union

TO
OCEAN GROVE

AND—
Asbury Park,

THURSDAY, JULY 19, 1883,

VIA
Pennsylvania Railroad.

Leaving Centre Street at 8.00 A.M., stopping at Market, Chestnut, and Emmet Streets, Elizabeth, and Long Branch. Returning, leave Ocean Grove at 6 P.M.

Tickets, - One Dollar.

A DAY OF PLEASURE

BLOOMFIELD

BAPTIST CHURCH

EXCURSION

TO
Roton Point, Long Island Sound

By L. & W. R. L. and Steamer LONG BRANCH.

FRIDAY, JULY 6th, 1883.

A fine sail around New York City, under Brooklyn Bridge, passing Blackwell's Island, through Hell Gate to the Sound.

Roton Point is about 40 miles from New York; fine bathing, and in every respect a delightful spot.

Come! Come!! Come!!!

TICKETS FROM NEWARK.

Adults, \$1.00. Children under 15 years, 50 cents.

For sale at the Drug Stores, and by J. M. Van Arsdale and the Officers and Teachers of the Sabbath School.

LONG BRANCH

OCEAN GROVE.

Second Annual Excursion

OF THE
Acme Association,

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11, 1883,

Via Central R. R. of New Jersey.

Tickets, - One Dollar.

Children between 5 and 12 years, 50 cents.

Tickets for sale at John P. Scherff's Pharmacy, Bloomfield, and at the depot on the morning of the excursion.

Train leaves Broad Street Station, Newark and New York Railroad, 9.00 A.M. Returning, leave Ocean Grove 7.00 and Long Branch 7.10 P.M., stopping 8 hours at the Beach.

NOTICE.—If a rainy day, the Excursion will be postponed, and notice of postponement will be published in this paper.

GRAND

Family Excursion.

GREENWOOD LAKE

—AND—
WARWICK WOODLANDS,

Thursday, July 26.

Tickets, - - - - - 75 cents.

Children, under 12 years, 40 cents.

MUSIC BY PROF. VOSS.

Tickets can be procured at John P. Scherff's Pharmacy, and on the train.

Train leaves Bloomfield 9.00, Montclair 9.05 A.M. Returning, Boat will leave Warwick Woodlands 4.30 P.M., affording 6 hours at the Lake.

NOTICE.—If a rainy day, the Excursion will be postponed. See notice in this paper.

ROBERT M. BALL,

Mason and Builder,

BLOOMFIELD, N. J.

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Wholesale and Retail Dealer in and Manufacturers' Agent for

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All the Novelties of the Season.

BE SURE AND BUY SOME OF THE

Japanese DAY Fireworks and the Animal Fire Balloons.

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NEWARK CLOTHIERS,

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FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

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They will not be Undersold by any Establishment in the Country.

They have the Correct Style and Cut on all Garments.

They give the Best Goods for the Least Money.

They Buy from First Hands and Save all Profits; and last but not least,

They sell at Low Prices, being satisfied that the Nimble Sixpence is better than the Slow Shilling.

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Wholesale and Retail Dealer in

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YARDS, { 59 Sheffield Street, Cor. M. & E. R. R. Ave.,
119 First Street, Cor. Sussex Avenue,
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TELEPHONE No. 101. Coal delivered in all parts of Bloomfield.

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LADIES', MISSES', AND INFANTS' UNDERWEAR IN MUSLIN AND MERINO.

Corsets, Hosiery, Gloves, Ribbons, Linen Collars and Cuffs, Embroideries, Fichus, Laces, Jerseys in every style and quality.

FINE WHITE GOODS.

Embroidered Robes in Swiss, very handsome.

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25 PIECES OF